Gina Behnfeldt, VP, Economic Development Services
Ms. Behnfeldt leads Tetra Tech’s Long-Term Recovery and Economic Development Practice under the company’s Emergency Management Community Resilience Initiative to deliver best-in-class consulting services to assist communities’ long-term recovery from natural and other disasters, and to build strong economies. Over the course of her career, Ms. Behnfeldt has led development and implementation of multiple financing and incentive programs employing broad knowledge of tax credit, creative funding structures, public/private partnerships, community and economic development best practices, real estate development, credit underwriting, and equity investing. Her funding knowledge base includes USEDA, CDBG-DR, CDBG- MIT, SBA, NMTC, Opportunity Zones, SSBCI, many state and local funding and financing sources, among others.
Belinda Little-Wood, Senior Planner

Ms. Little-Wood has extensive experience in disaster planning, management and recovery. She worked in the Office of Recovery in New Orleans, LA for Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav, Isaac, Ike and the BP oil spill. She served as the city’s Economic Development Director from 2008-2010 and led the creation of NOLA Business Alliance, the first Public/Private Economic Development agency in the city’s history. She served as Director of the Local Redevelopment Authority that created a redevelopment plan for the “East Bank” Navy Support Facility announced for closure in 2005 (included 1.5M sq. ft. of buildings). Prior to joining the city in its recovery efforts, Ms. Little-Wood consulted with businesses, non-profits, and banking institutions on business development, business continuity, and federal lending programs including USEDA, SBA, and HUD, with deep knowledge of USEDA funding and priorities.
AGENDA

- USEDA Funding Allocations in MRCTI States
- Eligible Applicants
- Economic Conditions
- Eligible Uses
- Key Application Requirements
- Project Examples
- Next Steps
- Q & A
USED A CARES ACT CORONAVIRUS RECOVERY FUNDING

ASSISTS COMMUNITIES TO PREVENT, PREPARE FOR AND RESPOND TO CORONAVIRUS

- $1.5 Billion Announced May 7, 2020
- Largest ever allocation of disaster related funding to this agency
- Communities impacted by Coronavirus Pandemic (includes the entire country)
- Through Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) program
USED A, EAA COVID RECOVERY

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- States
- Counties
- Cities
- Other State political subdivisions and consortium of political subdivisions
- District Organizations (Economic Development Districts)
- Indian Tribes or consortium of Tribes
- Special purpose units of State or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities
- Institutions of higher education or consortium of institutions of higher education
- Public or private non-profit organization or association acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a State

MULTI-COMMUNITY, REGIONAL FOCUS
(Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS))
ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Challenges

- Business Failures – businesses asked to close or alter operations may not reopen
- Re-employing the Unemployed
- Business processes reengineered for remote work
- Considerable softening/decline in Real Estate market
  - Commercial
  - Residential
- Changes in Buying Habits that will endure after Pandemic passes

Opportunities

- Modernization of Broadband, Cellular, IT
- Re-training Opportunities
- Business Attraction
- Bringing Manufacturing Home
- Preparation for future based on lessons learned and best practices from the outbreak
USEDA, Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) COVID RECOVERY

Eligible Uses

Skills Training and Workforce Development

- Sanitizing Industry
- Manufacturing
- Supply Chain Security
- Cybersecurity
- Service Industry Needs
- Work-from-Home Training

Entrepreneurial Support Programs

- Partnering with local community colleges, technical colleges to support entrepreneurial efforts
  - Essential Services – electricians, plumbers, HVAC engineers, hospital and medical clinic employees
  - Entrepreneurs restarting businesses and new ventures
- Direct business assistance through Revolving Loan Fund
Eligible Uses cont’d

**Economic Infrastructure**
- Deployment of broadband to support telehealth, remote learning for job skills, and long-distance learning for students
- Energy, roads, water and sewer projects to promote resilience
- Building or retrofitting shelter-in-place facilities (plumbing, HVAC, backup power, water, flexibility to social distance for large groups)

**Supply Chain Business Continuity**
- Regional plan to assess readiness of each facet of health care delivery system and address shortfalls in care and related supply chain during a catastrophic event
- Regional plan to assess readiness and address shortfalls of water and food supply chains under pressure

**Variety of Other Planning Activities**
- Preparing or updating Resiliency Plans to respond to future pandemics or multiple disasters at the same time
- Updating evacuation methods, communications, shelters, points of distribution, etc.
- Planning to diversify regional economy with value-added projects
- Identify sites to be marketed to site selectors
- Identify infrastructure needs (e.g., technology, training, etc.)
- CEDS incorporating pandemic
Meets objective of current CEDS (or equivalent)

“Case” for the Project

Regional economic impacts from coronavirus

How project responds to those impacts

- Support pandemic recovery and resilience efforts

2 Options for Pandemic + Flooding – Covid for both, or 2019 Funding for Flooding

Meets USEDA’s Recovery and Resilience Investment Priority

- Critical Infrastructure
- Workforce Development & Manufacturing
- Exports and Foreign Direct Investment
- Opportunity Zones

(Do not have to meet all Investment Priorities)
KEY APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS (cont’d)

Application Process
- Rolling, 60-Day Approval
- Accepting thru September 2022, or funds exhausted

Deployment Period – 2 Years from Approval

Employment Creation/Retention

Local Match
- 20% of project
- In-Kind & CDBG funds may be used as match

Employment Creation/Retention

Deployment Period – 2 Years from Approval
USEDA FUNDED PROJECT EXAMPLES

2020
ST. CLOUD TECHNICAL AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE/
MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

USEDFA Funding – $2,530,000

- Construction of a new advanced manufacturing training lab in Stearns County
- Expansion of the college’s manufacturing technology program
  - Providing cutting-edge equipment
  - Offering flexible space to serve region’s workforce training needs
- Will provide pipeline of skilled workers in high demand fields
- Bolsters workforce development, creates jobs, attracts private investment, and strengthens regional economy
- Project will help create 240 jobs, save 1,050 jobs, and leverage $37,700,000 in private investment
- Local investment match - $2,070,000
BRIDGER DISTRICT, NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

USEDAA Funding – $52,000

- Development of conduit utility master plan for Bozeman, Montana and operation of the conduit system as its own revenue generating fund
- Project addresses local and regional need for high quality, high speed internet connectivity
- Aids existing businesses and will create environment for further business expansion throughout the region
- Local investment match - $52,000
NEXT STEPS

Major Steps to formulate and apply for funding

1. Project Concept
2. Initiative Lead and Partners
3. CEDS or Equivalent
4. USEDAA Regional Rep. Meeting
5. Application
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